

(3) allowing the carpet latex compound to dry while keeping the pile in contact with the coated side of the latex-coated backing to produce the carpet.

16. [Amended] A carpet as specified in claim 2, wherein said carboxylated styrene-butadiene rubber is comprised of repeat units which are derived from about 52 weight percent to about 69.5 weight percent styrene, from about 30 weight percent to about 45 weight percent 1,3-butadiene, and from about 1 weight percent to about 3 weight percent itaconic acid; wherein said rosin acid soap is [selected from the group consisting of] a potassium soap[s] of rosin acid, a sodium soap[s] of rosin acid [and] or a lithium soap[s] of rosin acid; and wherein said filler is an inorganic carbonate.

17. [Amended] A carpet as specified in claim 2, wherein said carboxylated styrene-butadiene rubber is comprised of repeat units which are derived from about 58 weight percent to about 63.4 weight percent styrene, from about 35 weight percent to about 40 weight percent 1,3-butadiene, and from about 1.6 weight percent to about 2 weight percent itaconic acid; wherein said rosin acid soap is a potassium soap of rosin acid; and wherein said filler is calcium carbonate.

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW CLAIMS:

21. A carpet comprising:

a pile;

a backing; and

a dried carpet latex compound bonding said pile to said backing, said carpet latex compound comprising:

a) a carboxylated styrene-butadiene latex,

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25. A carpet according to claim 24, wherein said carboxylated styrene-butadiene rubber is comprised of repeat units which are derived from about 52 weight percent to about 69.5 weight percent styrene, from about 30 weight percent to about 45 weight percent 1,3-butadiene, and from about 1 weight percent to about 3 weight percent itaconic acid.

27. A carpet according to claim 21, wherein said filler is calcium carbonate, and wherein said carboxylated styrene-butadiene rubber is comprised of repeat units which are derived from about 52 weight percent to about 69.5 weight percent styrene, from about 30 weight percent to about 45 weight percent 1,3-butadiene and from about 1 weight percent to about 3 weight percent of an unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer which is acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, fumaric acid, or itaconic acid, or combinations thereof.

28. A process for manufacturing carpet according to claim 3, wherein said filler is present in an amount from about 250 parts by weight to about 800 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of said latex, wherein said thickener is present in an amount from about 0.1 parts by weight to about 5 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of said latex, wherein said emulsifier is present in an amount from about 0.2 phr to about 6 phr, and wherein said rosin acid soap is present in an amount from about .05 phr to about 10 phr.

29. A process for manufacturing carpet according to claim 28, wherein said rosin acid soap is a potassium soap of rosin acid, a sodium soap of rosin acid, or a lithium soap of rosin acid, or combinations thereof.

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31. A process for manufacturing carpet according to claim 29, wherein said rosin acid soap is present at a level which is within the range of about 0.1 phr to about 5 phr, and wherein said filler is calcium carbonate.

33. A process for manufacturing carpet according to claim 32, wherein said carboxylated styrene-butadiene rubber is comprised of repeat units which are derived from about 58 weight percent to about 63.4 weight percent styrene, from about 35 weight percent to about 40 weight percent 1,3-butadiene, and from about 1.6 weight percent to about 2 weight percent itaconic acid, and wherein said rosin acid soap is present at a level which is within the range of about 0.5 phr to about 1 phr.

34. A process for manufacturing carpet according to claim 28, wherein said filler is calcium carbonate, and wherein said carboxylated styrene-butadiene rubber is comprised of repeat units which are derived from about 52 weight percent to about 69.5 weight percent styrene, from about 30 weight percent to about 45 weight percent 1,3-butadiene and from about 1 weight percent to about 3 weight percent of an unsaturated

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